Managing threats, fostering stability

Long-term responses
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Introduction

The world is facing increasingly complex security challenges that undermine development and weaken states. These challenges include: terrorism; trafficking in drugs, small arms and human beings; money laundering; cybercrime; and threats to critical maritime and information infrastructures.

Over the next seven years (2014-20), the European Union (EU) will continue to confront these threats to international security and stability. It will do this through the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace.

Projects carried out under the Instrument play an important role in helping to maintain stability in partner countries and promote their long-term development. Instability, organised crime and corruption not only deter investment, hinder trade and divert public social expenditure, but also severely weaken democracy, human rights and the rule of law, which are the very core values the EU aims to promote.

Activities are divided into several thematic areas, addressing some of the most pressing security concerns facing governments and their citizens, such as terrorism, piracy, and biological and nuclear threats. This brochure provides a brief overview of the work.
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Budget Breakdown

The table below summarises the division of funding for activities. New priority areas include climate change and country-specific counter-terrorism initiatives.

Indicative financial allocations from 2014 to 2017 (million EUR)
Themes
The number of terrorist incidents worldwide has increased over the last decade, rising steeply until 2007 and holding steady since then. Terrorism represents a serious threat to the personal safety and security of citizens, and the EU is working with its international partners to tackle this threat and address its root causes.

**EU response**

The EU approach to counter-terrorism is based on four mutually supporting pillars: Prevent, Protect, Pursue and Respond:

- the prevent pillar aims to stop the radicalisation and recruitment of terrorists;
- the protect pillar seeks to reduce the vulnerability terrorist targets and limit the impact of attacks;
- the pursue pillar emphasises the importance of tracking terrorists across borders to disrupt their activities;
- the respond pillar aims to ensure that EU Member States are prepared for dealing with terrorist attacks when they occur.

Counter-terrorism activities focus on strengthening law enforcement and judicial institutions, countering and preventing violent extremism and the recruitment of terrorists, and countering the financing of terrorism. The financial allocation to counter-terrorism has been significantly increased, reflecting the growing threat of terrorism in regions including the Sahel, the Horn of Africa, South Asia, North Africa and the Middle East. Priority will be given to supporting the development and implementation of counter-terrorism strategies in line with the highest international standards, and the strengthening of oversight mechanisms.

New changes brought about under the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace allow for the financing of counter-terrorism projects at country level. This means that instead of a ‘one size fits all’ approach, projects can be adapted according to context, with specific in-country conditions taken into consideration. This strategy has been particularly successful with regard to Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) projects, where support is being provided at community level. All work carried out by the EU in this area is subject to strict monitoring to ensure full respect is given to human rights considerations and international laws.
Priority areas of Instrument for Stability (IfS) – Countering global and trans-regional threats and Organised Crime

- Organised Crime
- Countering Terrorism
- Critical Infrastructures
Globalisation and new technologies have helped enable the work of organised crime groups. Greater mobility allows criminals to carry out their activities across borders with relative ease, and by harnessing new technologies, they are able to conduct their activities on a much larger scale. The most effective way of confronting transnational crime is through better international and trans-regional cooperation. The EU is working to bring this about by encouraging more effective cooperation, exchange of best practices and sharing of information across national borders and across different regions.

Several threats have been identified as priority areas in the fight against organised crime. These threats include: trafficking of drugs (i.e. cocaine, heroin and synthetic drugs); trafficking of human beings and small arms and light weapons; money laundering; the production of and trafficking in falsified medicines; and cybercrime. These areas are considered to pose the greatest threat to international peace, security and stability as they hamper development and undermine democracy and good governance.
2.1. Organised Crime: **DRUGS**

Illicit drug trafficking is a highly lucrative activity for organised crime groups, with profits fuelling the growth and development of criminal organisations around the world. Concerted international efforts are required to combat it. Drug trafficking can be effectively addressed by targeting illicit drugs en route from their country of origin to the countries in which they are consumed.

**EU response**

With this in mind, EU actions will seek to address the issue of drug trafficking by continuing to target the main routes used for the transportation of drugs. So far, activities have focused on 1) cocaine routes from Latin America to Europe, with special attention paid to West Africa (the Cocaine Route Programme) and 2) heroin routes from Afghanistan to Europe (the Heroin Route Programme). The EU is following the trend of increased production and trafficking of synthetic drugs and this is an area where the existing initiatives may expand in the future.

2.2. Organised Crime: **MONEY LAUNDERING**

When organised crime groups acquire money through illicit means, they often launder it to avoid the attention of law enforcement agencies. Measures aimed at combating money laundering seek to disrupt and undermine this business model.

**EU response**

The EU’s approach to money laundering emphasises the importance of prevention and enforcement. It promotes regulations and codes of conduct in relevant financial institutions and seeks to strengthen the ability of partner countries to analyse, investigate and prosecute money laundering-related cases. Over the coming years, the EU will continue to fight against money laundering in affected countries and regions. It will do this by: raising awareness of money laundering, especially in cash-based economies; organising training and mentoring programmes; and promoting the exchange of information and good practices.
Geographical Scope of the Cocaine Route Programme

Objective:
- Interdiction of illicit flows of drugs, including chemical precursors, at ports and airports
- Fight against money laundering
- Enhancing law enforcement information sharing

Partners:
- Law enforcement, prosecuting agencies, financial intelligence units
- EU MS/Interpol/UNODC

Implementation:
- EUR 35 million 2009-16

Countries currently covered by the Programme
2.3. Organised Crime: HUMAN TRAFFICKING

 Trafficking in human beings is a serious violation of human rights. The vast majority of victims of human trafficking are female, with traffickers taking advantage of the social, economic and political discrimination against women that exists in many countries. Children are also targeted, often for the purposes of forced labour, begging or commercial sexual exploitation.

EU response

EU projects aim to address the problem of human trafficking by promoting the practices that have been proven to be most effective in tackling the issue. Accordingly, work will focus on enhancing the capacities of partner countries to identify and assist victims, as well as supporting cross-border police and judicial cooperation on human trafficking cases in order to effectively prosecute offenders.

2.4. Organised Crime: CYBERCRIME

 Most forms of criminal activity — illicit trafficking, money laundering and terrorist activity — have an increasingly important ‘cyber’ dimension. New technologies can increase profit opportunities for criminal groups while minimising their exposure to risk. The worldwide cost of cybercrime in financial terms is estimated at €300 billion per year. Given the multi-jurisdictional nature of cybercrime, concerted international efforts are required to disrupt the networks that support and benefit from it.

EU response

The EU will aim to strengthen the capacities of developing countries in applying relevant legislation on cybercrime as well as enhancing the abilities of law enforcement officers, judges and prosecutors to investigate, prosecute and adjudicate cybercrime cases. In this context, all actions will seek to promote the engagement of partner countries in international judicial cooperation. All projects and funding measures will be designed in accordance with the standards established in the European Cyber Security Strategy, which places human rights safeguards at the core of all relevant initiatives.
2.5. Organised Crime: TRAFFICKING IN SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS AND EXPLOSIVES

Trafficking in small and light weapons and explosives can be highly destabilising in fragile or conflict-prone countries. In conflicts, the majority of deaths are caused by the use of small and light weapons, and civilians often bear the brunt of this violence. The availability of these weapons can also have a negative effect on development: armed violence increases poverty, inhibits access to social services and undermines confidence in investment in fragile countries, hindering economic growth.

EU response

Work will be carried out to promote the implementation of relevant international legislation in partner countries. Targeted technical assistance will aim to improve the abilities of law enforcement, judicial and civil authorities to address the trans-regional dimensions of illicit trafficking in small and light weapons and explosives.
3. MARITIME SECURITY

For most countries, international maritime shipping is the main vehicle for importing and exporting goods, including oil and gas. In certain areas, the security of commercial, fishing and recreation vessels is threatened by acts of piracy, kidnapping and armed robbery at sea. Maritime shipping is also a major channel for most forms of illicit trafficking. Protecting trans-regional maritime routes and related infrastructure is vital to ensure citizens are safe and the global economy runs smoothly.

EU response

The EU provides valuable support to improve maritime security. Its work focuses on maritime zones with the highest number of piracy attacks, notably the Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Guinea. The ‘Critical Maritime Routes’ programme encourages trans-regional cooperation, builds capacities for sharing information and best practices, and promotes international standards and codes of conduct. Future programme support in this area will expand to other aspects of maritime security such as port control and the security of port facilities and ships.
Objective: Cross-regional cooperation (Africa, Arabian Peninsula, Asia)

Partners: Law enforcement agencies, Maritime bodies

Implementation: EU MS/Interpol

EUR 31.5 million 2009-16

Note: Gulf of Guinea is of increasing concern.
3.2. AVIATION SECURITY

Aviation security has become a major area of concern over the past few decades as air travel has grown from a small, exclusive service to a massive industry serving billions of people around the globe. This has created exciting opportunities for commerce and travel, but has also generated considerable security challenges. Today, the main security threat to aircraft, airports and passengers is terrorist activity, notably in the form of hijackings, bombings and anti-aircraft missiles. Terrorist attacks against civilian aircraft and airports have prompted the International Civil Aviation Organisation and the EU, along with national partners such as the United States of America, to raise aviation security standards, introducing stricter controls for passengers and cargo.

EU response

Due to a lack of institutional, technical and material capacity, a number of developing countries have been unable to meet the enhanced aviation security standards established in recent years. In response to this, the EU will contribute to building the necessary national capacities at operational, supervisory and regulatory levels. This will not only address a major transnational security threat, but also facilitate trade and development in target countries in Africa and the Middle East.

3.3. CYBER SECURITY

Our daily lives, economic vitality and general security depend increasingly on a stable, safe and resilient cyber-space. The world relies on a vast array of interconnected networks to communicate and travel, provide energy to homes, and run businesses and hospitals. Information and communication networks underpin all critical public and private services and help ensure the global economy runs smoothly. However, cyber-attacks have increased dramatically in recent years, in both number and sophistication. It is important to address this phenomenon to support the protection of vital infrastructure from future attacks.

EU response

The EU is committed to promote an open, free and secure cyberspace through its capacity-building activities in partner countries. In the coming years, it will work to improve international cyber security support policy and focus on building the capacities of developing countries to adequately prevent and respond to cyber security incidents. This will include: raising awareness of cyber threats; supporting the development of national cyber security strategies; and assisting in the creation and training of Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs).
Climate change has moved from being an environmental and energy challenge to being a matter of wider social and political concern. Failure to adapt to the onset of floods, drought, coastal erosion, glacial melting and heat waves can result in major instability in affected regions. Desertification could trigger migration and conflicts over territory and borders, while water shortage has the potential to cause civil unrest and economic losses. The effects of climate change are already being felt, and as the situation deteriorates and resources become scarcer, the potential for conflict increases.

**EU response**

The EU has identified climate change as a major risk to global security, acting as a driver of instability and conflict. Addressing the link between climate change and conflict is an important new priority area. Over the coming years, the EU will provide support to international cooperation in this area and encourage the implementation of best practices for dealing with the issue. It will also raise awareness of the security impacts of climate change by developing information-sharing projects and establishing and supporting knowledge networks that specialise in climate change and security issues.
Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) risks pose a threat to security, public health, the environment and critical infrastructure. The origin of CBRN threats can be natural, industrial or a result of criminal activities. Managing hazardous waste and dealing effectively with the illicit trafficking of nuclear materials are major areas of concern, while biological laboratories need to be monitored to prevent dangerous viruses and bacteria falling into the wrong hands. Promoting a culture of CBRN safety and security is essential to development and stability. In many countries, the capacity to deal with these risks needs further improvement. For this reason, international cooperation, especially between neighbouring countries, is to be promoted and encouraged.

**EU response**

**CBRN Regional Centres of Excellence**

The EU promotes a culture of CBRN safety and security within the EU as well as internationally. It is about to establish eight regional Centres of Excellence (CoE) dealing with the risks stemming from CBRN materials. Regional Centres of Excellence have been set up or are being set up in the following regions:

- African Atlantic Façade
- Central Asia
- Eastern and Central Africa
- Gulf Cooperation Council Countries
- Middle East
- North Africa
- South East Asia
- South East Europe, Southern Caucasus, Ukraine and Moldova

In addition, actions have been taken to establish CBRN National Focal Points and National CBRN Teams. The National Teams, Focal Points and Regional Secretariats are crucial elements under the initiative. All National Focal Points meet once a year to share experiences and know-how, and the heads of the Regional Secretariats meet at least once a year. CBRN-related risks can only be effectively solved at a regional level. The Regional Centres provide a platform for regional cooperation on all CBRN hazard related issues. They discuss natural and accidental (industrial) risks, as well as criminal threats. Partner countries will benefit from the activities of the CoE in a variety of ways including:

- membership of an international expert network
- availability of EU technical expertise
- round table discussions with experts from the region
- gap analysis and needs assessment
- establishment of National Action Plans
- project funding

Countries participate in the initiative on a voluntary basis, working together to identify risks, assess gaps and advise on the activities or projects to be pursued. At present, 50 countries are participating in the initiative.
CoE Fields of Concern

The CoE covers a variety of CBRN fields such as:

- Protection of CBRN materials/facilities
- Public and infrastructure protection
- Denying support for CBRN misuse and terrorism
- Border control
- Export control
- Transit and trans-shipment control
- Safeguarding CBRN information diffusion
- CBRN waste management
- CBRN incident response and crisis management
- Public health impact mitigation
- Post-incident recovery
- Investigation and prosecution
- Illicit trafficking
- Bio-safety and bio-security
CoE Benefits for Countries

Partner Countries benefit from the activities of the CoE in a variety of ways, including:

- Reinforcement of national CBRN policy
- Building institutional capacity
- Maximisation of existing CBRN capacities at regional and national levels
- Strengthening of existing networks and regional cooperation as well as national coordination

CBRN CoE projects are entirely financed by the European Union and are implemented by consortia from the EU Member States and International Organisations. The consortia, made up of mainly public sector experts and institutions, will work in partnership with CBRN National Focal Points, National CBRN Teams and other agencies in the Partner Countries where projects will be implemented.

The tasks of the Centres of Excellence will be gradually broadened to include specific discussions on export control of dangerous goods, effective responses to emergency situations and counter-terrorism issues.

More information on the Centres of Excellence can be found online at www.cbrn-coe.eu. If you have specific questions on the initiative, please send an email to cbrn-coe@jrc.ec.europa.eu. Newsletters are also available.

Other CBRN Risk Mitigation Activities

EU activities in the area of CBRN Risk Mitigation are not just limited to the Centres of Excellence initiative. A number of other significant activities are funded in this field, as outlined below.

Export Control

An outreach programme is in place and offers support to third countries to allow them to meet international obligations in the area of export control of dual-use items. The aim is to control the export of goods that can potentially be used for both peace and non-peaceful purposes. EU expertise is brought in to increase the effectiveness of the export control systems in target countries. Specific meetings are organised for industry to make them aware of the requirements.

Chemical- and Bio-security

In some regions, specific attention needs to be paid to chemical and bio-security. A number of projects are being financed to better monitor and control diseases, in particular for humans and animals. For example, one project has been funded to provide mobile laboratories to diagnose fatal diseases such as the Ebola virus. In the Middle East, meanwhile, disease control has been reinforced as a response to the Syrian crisis. Projects have also been carried out to upgrade laboratories to enable quicker diagnosis of diseases.

Containment of dual-use knowledge

The G8 has acknowledged the need to contain dual-use knowledge, i.e. scientific knowledge that can be used for both peaceful and non-peaceful purposes. Since the 1990s, considerable experience has been gained in this field in the former Soviet Union, and a number of scientific centres have been supported to ensure that scientific talents are used for civilian purposes. The functioning of the science centres has evolved to adapt to new challenges and a new Continuation Agreement for the International Science and Technology Centre (ISTC) has been negotiated for that purpose, allowing a broader geographical scope for activities. The main office of the Centre is now in Kazakhstan (Astana). A specific bilateral programme is in place in Iraq to redeploy the talents of former WMD scientists.

The rapid pace of scientific developments aided by the spread of knowledge via the internet and other sources poses new challenges in this field and the EU has taken the initiative to update the objectives of both Centres in Ukraine and Kazakhstan to address new needs and priorities. Together with its partners, the EU funds various projects to promote a culture of responsible science with respect to the handling and use of CBRN materials used in scientific work. It also promotes the establishment of independent peer reviews inside institutes. Other activities focus on training, and on support for the commercialisation of scientific discoveries. As a result, a number of new medicines and instruments have been brought to the marketplace.
CBRN RISK MITIGATION CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE

Objective:
Regional capabilities to prevent, detect and respond to risks of hazardous materials

Partners:
DG Home Affairs, DG Justice, First responders

Implementation:
EU MS/UNCRI

EUR 100 million 2007-13
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